***Statement***

*Pendency of cases in Family Courts*

| Name of the State | Pendency of cases |
|---|---|
| Andhra Pradesh | 4460 |
| Assam | 833 |
| Bihar | 1394 |
| Gujarat | 4994 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 497 |
| Jharkhand | 2314 |
| Karnataka | 7805 |
| Kerala | 20017 |
| Maharashtra | 18213 |
| Manipur | NA |
| Orissa | 3585 |
| Rajasthan | 6665 |
| Sikkim | 89 |
| Tamil Nadu | 7188 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 33300 |
| Uttaranchal | 384 |
| West Bengal | 629 |
| Pondicherry | 430 |
| TOTAL | 1,12,797 |

**Amendment to Representation of People Act**

392. DR. Y. LAKSHMI P \SAD:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward legislation to amend the Representation of the People Act to provide for proxy voting for armed forces personnel serving in far-flung areas of the country; and

(b) the other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1999, seeking to provide an additional facility of voting through the system of proxy at elections to the members of the Armed Forces, etc. was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 9.12.1999. The Bill was examined by the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs and its report was presented to the House on 19.4.2001. The Bill is now pending for consideration and passing by the Houses of Parliament.

**Pending cases in Supreme Court and High Courts**

393. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that very large number of cases are pending in the Supreme Court and High Courts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of pending cases as on 31st December, 2001;

(c) whether Government have decided to release the details about the status of pending cases on Internet to provide the litigants and lawyers updated information of the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The pendency of cases in the Supreme Court is on the decline. Therefore, it is not a fact that very large number of cases are pending in the Supreme Court of India. However, the pendency of cases is quite large in the High Courts. A statement in this regard is enclosed (*see* below).

(c) and (d) The Supreme Court of India and Delhi High Court are providing the status of the cases pending before it on Internet for information of the litigants and lawyers. Some of the High Courts like High Courts of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Bombay, Calcutta & Himachal Pradesh are in the process of developing and testing a software for providing the case status information of the pending cases.